

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
CONVENTION

BOARDS OF TRADE

AT OTTAWA,

16th, 17th and 18th April, 1868.

OTTAWA:

I. B. TAYLOR, PRINTER, "CITIZEN" STEAM PRINTING HOUSE, RIDEAU STREET.

1867.

REPORT OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF THE

LAND OFFICE

FOR THE YEAR

1890

BOARD OF TRADE CONVENTION.

A Convention of delegates representing the undernamed Boards of Trade, assembled at 2 o'clock, p. m., on Thursday, 16th April, 1868, in the Conference Chamber, No. 8, of the Senate, Parliament Buildings.

OTTAWA.—Hon. James Skead, President; E. McGillivray, Vice President; Alex. Workman, sen., S. Howell, T. Patterson, S. Christie, J. Rochester, jun., George H. Perry.

KINGSTON,—Messrs. Carruthers and Ford.

BELLEVILLE,—Thos. Kelso, George Neilson, W. Sutherland.

BRANTFORD,—I. Cockshut, C. H. Watrous.

HAMILTON.—John Stuart, G. J. Forster, J. M. Williams and T. H. McKenzie.

STRATFORD,—R. McFarlane, M. P., J. Redford M. P.

LONDON,—A. Rowland, C. Hunt.

WINDSOR,—D. Cameron.

The Convention was opened by E. McGillivray, Esq., Vice President Ottawa Board of Trade, who stated the object for which it was called to be a consideration of the Silver Question, the Tariff, and other matters connected with commerce.

It was moved by Hon. Jas. Skead, seconded by Thos. Patterson, and resolved, That John Stuart, Esq., be called to the Chair.

It was moved by R. Macfarlane, Esq., M. P., seconded by E. McGillivray, and resolved, that G. H. Perry, Esq., be requested to act as Secretary.

The Convention being formally organized, the Secretary read the correspondence relative to the appointment of Delegates, and also letters of acquiescence in the objects and purpose from the following Boards of Trade :—Quebec, Kingston, Belleville, Cobourg, Toronto, Guelph, Brantford,

Hamilton, London, Stratford, Windsor, and announcing their attention to appoint delegates.

As the Ottawa Board of Trade have taken the initiative in this matter, it should be stated that circulars requesting the co-operation of the Boards of Trade of St. John, Halifax and Charlottetown, were addressed to those places, but no answer has as yet been received.

In order to allow the delegates time to prepare the necessary details of the various subjects to be discussed, it was moved by E. McGillivray, seconded by S. Howell, and resolved, That this meeting do adjourn till 10 o'clock p. m. on to-morrow (17th).

FRIDAY, 17th April, 1868. .

The Convention assembled at 10 o'clock, a. m.

It was moved by C. Hunt, Esq., seconded by Thos H. McKenzie, Esq., and resolved, That all the members of the Boards of Trade be entitled to vote on all questions coming before the meeting.

Moved by Thomas Patterson, Esq., seconded by Wm. Sutherland, Esq., and resolved, That a Committee of the Whole, the present Chairman in the Chair, go into discussion of the Silver Question.

Moved by Mr. Carruthers, seconded by Mr. Ford, and resolved, That in the opinion of this Convention the most feasible method of abating the "Silver Nuisance" would be for the Banks to buy up the American Silver, at a discount of from $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 per cent., and, with the sanction of the Government, to hold it as part of their specie reserve, not again putting it into circulation—thus securing a more ample circulation for their bills, and being in a position to take advantage of the best time to sell and export it.

Moved by Mr. Neilson, seconded by Mr. Carruthers, and resolved, That Committees be appointed to Report on, 1st, The duties on Sugars, teas, liquors, groceries and hops; 2nd—on manufactured goods, tools, grain, raw material and coal; 3rd,—Export duties; 4th,—Excise duties; 5th,—Banking and insolvency.

The following gentlemen were appointed as Committees:

1. THE DUTIES ON SUGAR, &c.—Messrs. Forster, Carruthers, Kelso, Stuart, McGillivray, Patterson, Cockshut, Cameron, Rowland, and C. T. Bate.

2. ON MANUFACTURES.—Messrs. Hunt, Williams, Watrous, Workman, McKenzie, Neilson, Sutherland and Ford.

3. EXPORT DUTIES.—Messrs. McKenzie, Skead, Neilson.
4. EXCISE.—Messrs. Rowland, Rochester, Perry, Christie, Patterson, Hunt, Williams.
5. BANKING, &c.—Messrs. Carruthers, Forster, Workman, Stuart, Bate.

The Convention adjourned till 11 o'clock, A. M., on 18th April.

Saturday, 18th April, 1868.

The Convention opened at 11 o'clock, A. M. The Committees not being fully prepared, an adjournment till 3 P. M., took place.

On re-assembling the Convention was resolved into a Committee of the whole, the Chairman in the Chair.

The various Committees submitted their Reports which were discussed clause by clause, and with a few insignificant amendments, were adopted as follows :

The Committee appointed to consider the present Tariff, so far as it affects Sugars, Teas, Tobaccos, Hops, Wines, Liquors and General Groceries, beg leave to report the following :

SUGARS.—That they find there exists very great dissatisfaction with the working of the Tariff on this article. This Committee coincide with the views of those who advocate a combined specific and ad valorem system as preferable to the present *wholly specific*, and would respectfully recommend a uniform duty of one cent specific and twenty-two per cent ad valorem—dispensing with all classification—being of opinion that such a duty would be just to all parties, and, while giving abundant protection to Refiners, would also create a healthy competition, and tend to foster direct trade with the West Indies and South America.

MOLASSES.—The Committee recommend a uniform duty of 73 cents per 100 lbs.

TEA.—The Committee think that the present discrimination between Black and Green Teas is unjust, and would recommend a uniform duty of four cents per lb. specific and 20 per cent. ad valorem.

COFFEES & CHICORY.—The Committee desire to see as near an approach to the ad valorem principle on these articles as possible, and would recommend a duty of one cent per lb. specific and twenty per cent. ad valorem on all descriptions.

FRUITS.—They would recommend a continuance of the present duty without the addition of any specific.

LIQUORS.—The Committee would strongly urge that the duty should be charged according to strength, whether above or below proof, and upon the actual quantity, either in wood or bottle.

DRAWBACKS.—The Committee deem it important that a system of drawbacks on Canadian Refined Sugars and Manufactured Tobaccos should be established, so that Refiners, Manufacturers and Merchants may be enabled to export to foreign countries at the first cost of the article.

HOPS.—The Committee find that American Hops are being largely imported into this country duty free, while Canadian Hops are charged duty when exported to the United States. They would recommend the same duty to be levied on American Hops in Canada as is levied on Canadian Hops in the United States.

STARCH.—The present duty on Starch is exorbitant and beyond the requirements of the case. The Committee recommend that it be materially reduced.

CASH DISCOUNTS.—The Committee recommend strongly that no duty be charged on discounts allowed for cash, and that goods bought on credit be allowed a discount, reducing them to the net cash value.

COMMISSIONS.—The Committee think that clause No. 12, in the last Customs Act, referring to Commissions, should be expunged.

All which is respectfully submitted.

G. J. FORSTER,
Chairman.

Your Committee on Manufactured Goods, Tools, Grain, Coal, and other raw materials, beg leave to report,

That they unanimously recommend that all kinds of machinery manufactured from cast and wrought iron, brass or any other metal, and also candle wick, now on the free list, be made chargeable with 15 per cent duty.

That leather and all other goods paying 10 per cent ad valorem be made to pay 15 per cent.

That all kinds of grain be admitted free.

That raw material specially required for manufacturing purposes be admitted free.

That great hardship would be inflicted on the country and a severe blow given to manufacturing, if any duty should be imposed upon coal.

All of which is respectfully submitted for your consideration.

CHAS. HUNT,
Chairman.

The Committee on Export Duties beg to report:

That in order to promote the manufacturing interests of the Dominion, export duties on certain raw or partially manufactured articles, entering into manufactures, are essential, and they recommend the following scale of duties:

Shingle Bolts, per cord.....	\$1 00
Stave Bolts of oak, white ash and rock elm.....	2 00
do all other kinds	1 00
Round Hoop Poles, averaging 2 in. diameter, per 1,000 poles.	3 00
Split Hoop material, per 1,000 hoops.....	1 00
Hop Poles, per 1,000 poles.....	4 00
Telegraph Poles, 20 feet long and under, per 100 poles.....	2 00
Fence Posts and Railway Ties, 10 feet long and under, averaging 8 in. diameter, per 100 posts or ties.....	1 00
Saw Logs, Pine and other firs, per standard log.....	0 20
do Hardwood do	0 30

Sheep Skins, with the Wool on.....20 p ct
 Hemlock or other Barks, or the extracts therefrom.....20 p ct
 All of which is respectfully submitted.

THOS. H. McKENZIE,
 Chairman.

The Committee on Excise beg leave to report that, after careful consideration, they are prepared to recommend the following:

First.—That crude petroleum should be subject to an excise duty of 25 cents per barrel of 40 gallons.

Second.—That refined oil should bear an excise duty of 10 cents per gallon.

Third.—That the same duty should be put on all imported oil, in addition to that already existing, and that the duty on kerosene be the same as on petroleum.

Fourth.—That a Government Inspector be appointed, whose duties would be to inspect and brand all oils.

Fifth.—That to insure safety to the public, no oil should be offered for sale that will not stand a vapour test of 100 degrees, such oil being classified as No. 2; all oils standing a test of 110 degrees and upwards to be classed as No. 1.

Sixth.—That in the opinion of the Committee, the present Act 31 Vic., Cap. 8, intituled an "Act respecting Inland Revenue," is oppressive in its operations and productive of no good results, and recommend that such amendments be made therein as will simplify the mode of collecting revenue on malt.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

FRED. ROWLAND,
 Chairman of Com.

The Committee on Banking and Insolvency beg to report as follows:

BANKING.—The Committee are of opinion that the present Canadian system of Banking is founded on sound principles, and has worked most successfully in developing the resources and carrying on the business of the country; and they would deplore any legislation that would curtail the privileges of the Banks as they exist at present. The Committee think they are not called upon to enter more fully into the subject; as they are glad to find that Government have submitted the whole subject of Banking and Currency to a Parliamentary Committee; and they trust the result will be to establish on a permanent footing the present system, which so largely enjoys the confidence of the country.

INSOLVENCY.—In view of the fact that there is a Parliamentary Committee now sitting on the Insolvent Laws, and that Government have taken steps to elicit the opinions of the Boards of Trade and other parties having practical experience of the working of the law, the Committee do not deem it necessary to offer any suggestions, but would express a hope that the result of the deliberations of Parliament will be the enactment of a more perfect and satisfactory system.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. CARRUTHERS,
 Chairman.

The Committee of the whole having risen, the Reports were adopted by the Convention.

It was moved by Chas. Hunt, Esq., seconded by J. M. Williams, Esq., and Resolved,

That the proceedings of the Convention be printed, and five copies sent to each Board of Trade in the Dominion.

Moved by E. McGillivray, Esq., seconded by T. Patterson, Esq., and

Resolved, That the Chairman do now leave the Chair. and Mr. Ford be called thereto.

Moved by the Honorable Jas. Skead, seconded by J. Rochester, and

Resolved, That the thanks of this meeting are due to the Chairman, J. Stuart, Esq., for his efficient and impartial conduct while in the Chair.

A vote of thanks to the Secretary having also passed, the Convention adjourned.

JOHN STUART, *Chairman*